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DEFENSE  
INTELLIGENCE  
AGENCY

Defense Intelligence  
Estimate

Chinese Military Capabilities  
and National Direction:  
A 20 Year Assessment (U)

APRIL 1984

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DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE ESTIMATE

CHINESE MILITARY CAPABILITIES AND NATIONAL DIRECTION: A 20 YEAR ASSESSMENT (U)

(U) This estimate has been coordinated with the Service Intelligence Chiefs.

[REDACTED]

APPROVED BY:



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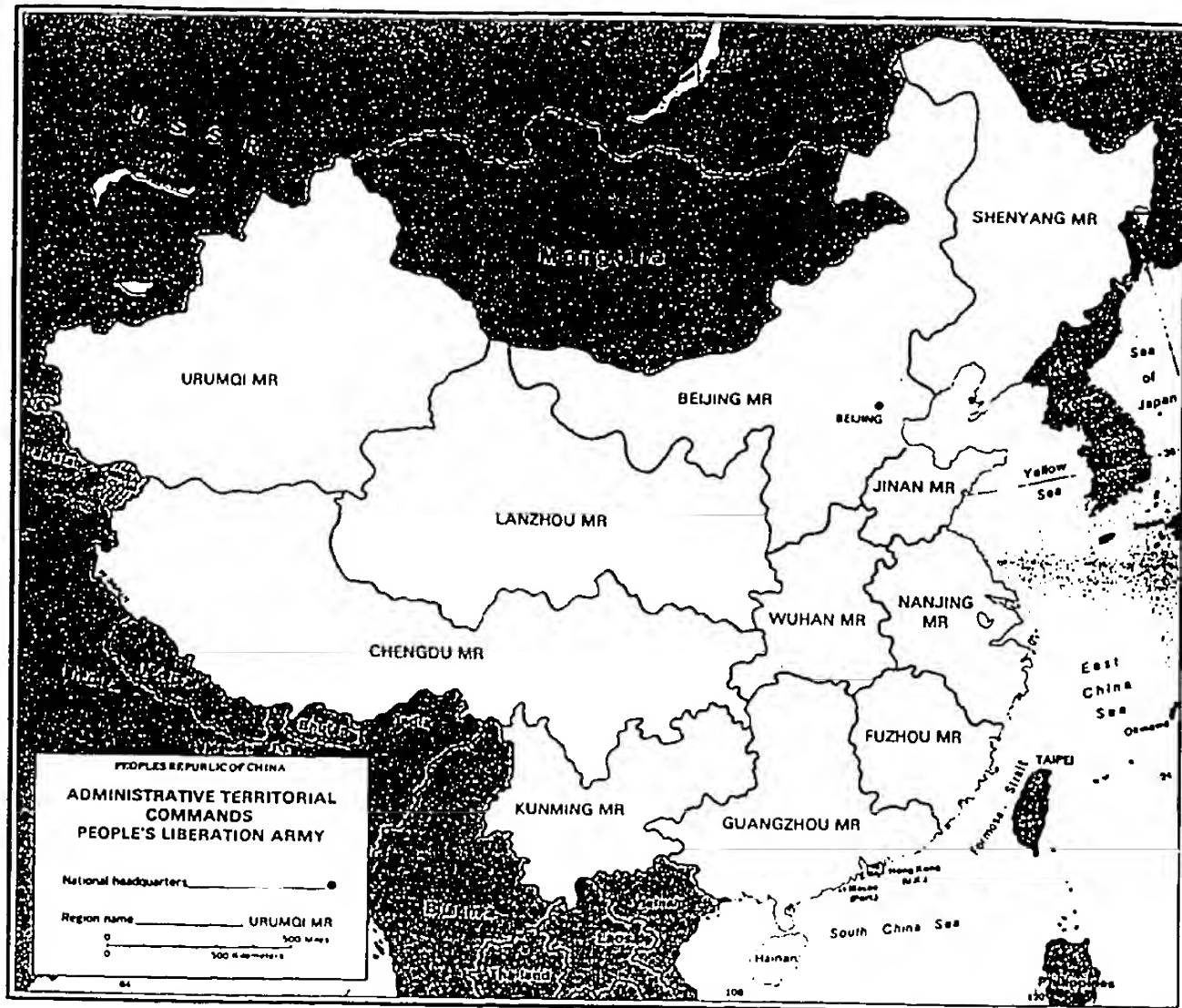
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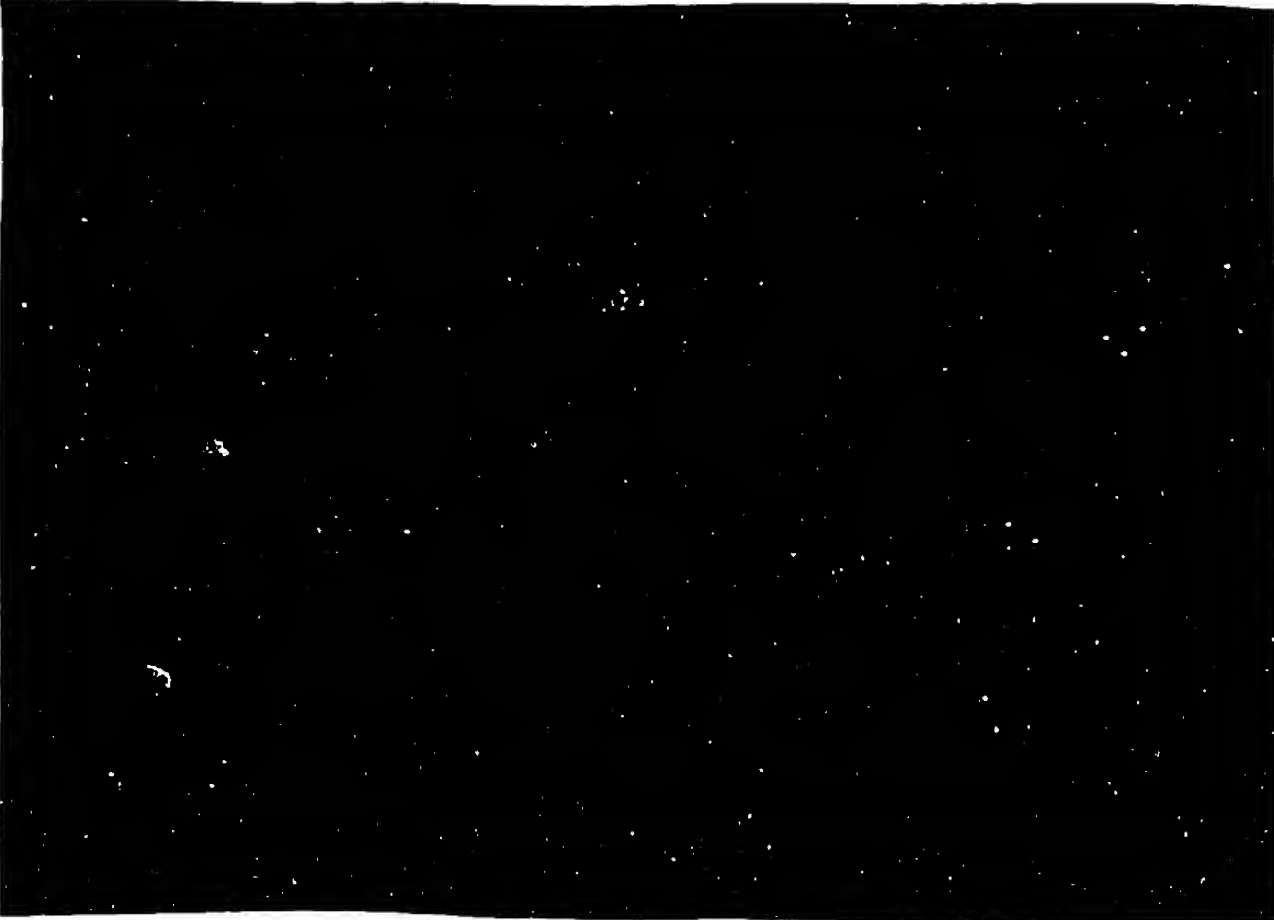


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extent interrelated in terms of their effect on Chinese foreign and domestic policies.

6. (U) Of preeminent importance is the goal of Chinese national development or modernization. The leadership has targeted the year 2000 for China to attain the status of a "powerful, modern socialist country." In retrospect, initial production goals associated with the "Four Modernizations" were far too ambitious. Despite setbacks, however, the present leadership remains deeply committed to an innovative program of economic development. At the recently concluded 6th National People's Congress, Premier Zhao Ziyang reiterated the main tasks to be accomplished during the remainder of the decade:

- balanced development of agriculture and light and heavy industry;
- continued development of the energy and transportation sectors;
- technical upgrading of industrial enterprises; and,
- continued improvement in the national standard of living.



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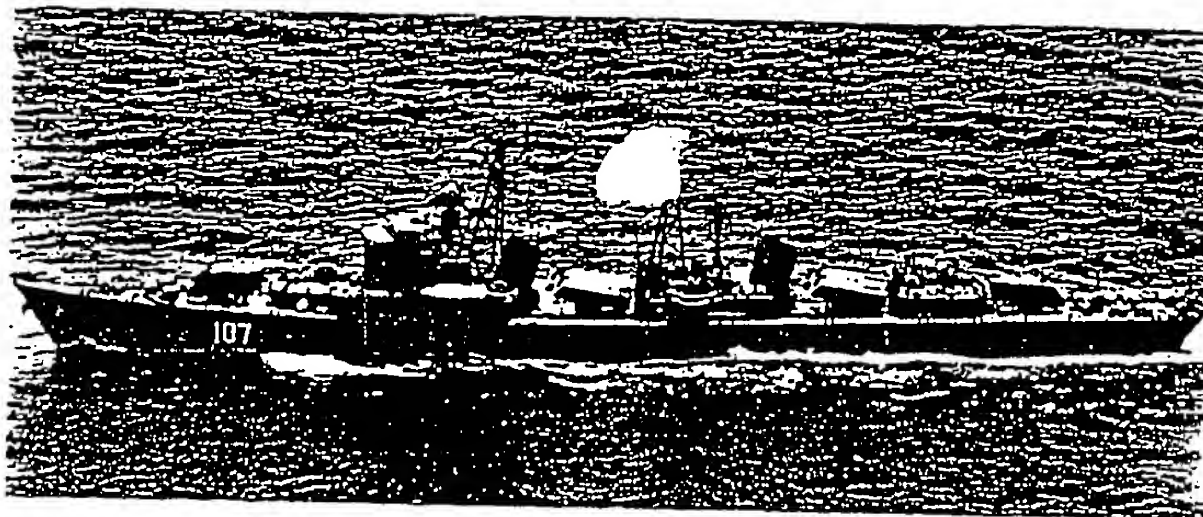
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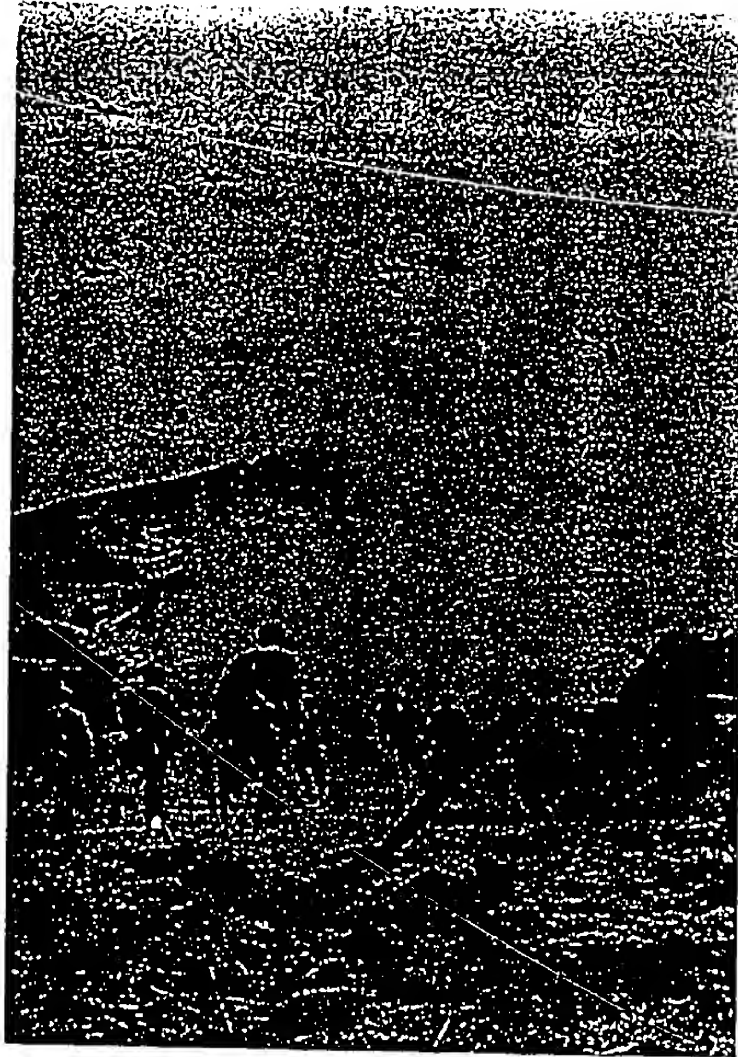


*Figure 5. (U) The LUDA Class destroyer, at 37,000 tons displacement, is China's largest naval combatant. Its armament includes 6 Chinese built STYX-type surface-to-surface missiles and launchers, and 25, 37 and 57mm antiaircraft gun systems. For the most part, the LUDA embodies 1950's level Soviet technology.*



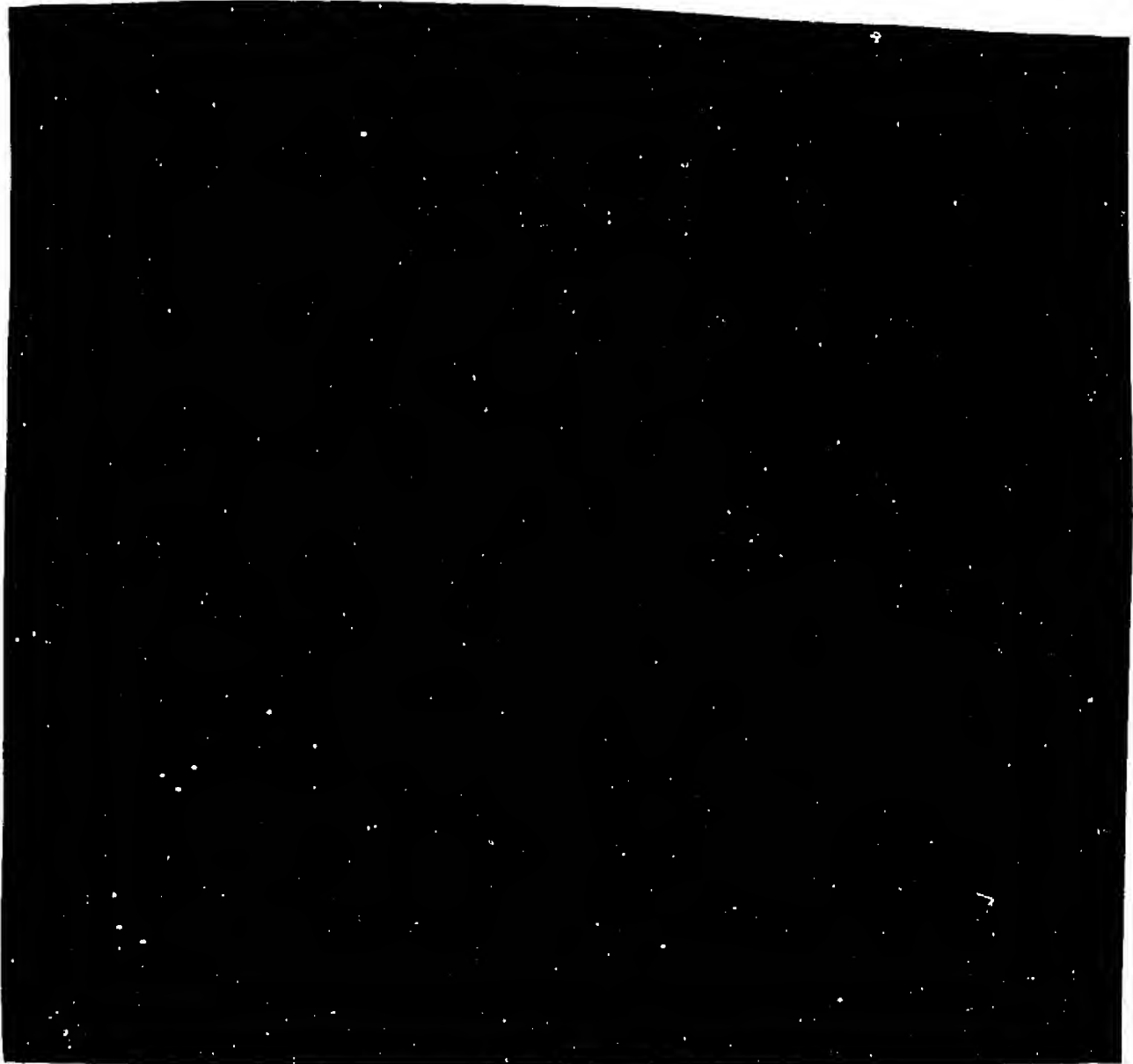
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## DISCUSSION



### NATIONAL GOALS AND THREAT PERCEPTIONS

5. (U) The broad national goals of China--generally stated as modernization, reunification, and security--have remained fairly constant since 1978. While tactics for achieving them and the sense of urgency attached to each have varied, the goals themselves have not. All three are to a certain